

## THE SENATE

The Senate is composed of 46 Senators elected on November 6, 2012 for terms of four years (Const. Art. III, Sec. 6). Pursuant to Sec. 2-1-65 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 49 of 1995, each Senator is elected from one of forty-six numbered single-member senatorial districts. Candidates for the office of Senator must be legal residents of the district from which they seek election. Each senatorial district contains a population of approximately one/forty-sixth of the total population of the State based on the 2010 Federal Census.

First year legislative service stated means the year the Member attended his first session.

Abbreviations: [D] after name indicates Democrat, [R] after name indicates Republican; *b.* "born"; *g.* "graduated"; *m.* "married"; *s.* "son of"; *d.* "daughter of."

## OFFICERS

### President, Ex officio, Lieutenant Governor

**McCONNELL, Glenn F.** [R]—(for biography and picture see p. 17).

### President *Pro Tempore*



**COURSON, John E.** [R]—(Dist. No. 20, Lexington-Richland Cos.)—Senior VP, Keenan & Suggs; *b.* Nov. 21, 1944; *g.* Univ. of S.C., 1968; *m.* Elizabeth Poinsett Exum, 3 children, James Poinsett, Elizabeth Boykin, and Harris Russell; Episcopalian; mil. serv.: USMCR; Order of the Palmetto, 1978; Hon. Doctorate of Public Admin., The Citadel, 2006; Hon. Doctorate of Laws, Univ.

of S.C., 2007; Hon. Doctorate of Humane Letters, Coll. of Charleston, 2007; Significant Sig, Sigma Chi Fraternity; life mem., Amer. Legion & Marine Corps League; Career Leadership in Promoting Ethics Reform in S.C. Sen. Award, Common Cause of S.C., 2013; Legislator of the Year, Common Cause of S.C. (1989) & Amer. Legion Dept. of S.C. (1993); Distinguished Serv. Award, Marine Corps League, 2003; Sen.

Rep., S.C. Counter Terrorism Coordinating Council, 2003; Friend to the Taxpayer, S.C. Assn. of Taxpayers (multiple times); Palmetto Leadership Award, S.C. Policy Council, 1998; Senator of the Year, S.C. Student Gov., 1992; Guardian of Small Bus., NFIB, 2012; Bus. Advocate Award & Public Servant of the Year, S.C. Chamber of Commerce, 2012; Outstanding Contributions to Art Educ. Award, S.C. Art Educ. Assn., 1987; Public Educ.—Outstanding Contributions Award, S.C. Dept. of Educ., 2005; Friend of Educ. Award, S.C. Educ. Assn., 2011; Green Tie Award, Conservation Voters of S.C., 2009; Conservationist of the Year, S.C. Wildlife Fed., 2009; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Sierra Club, 2011; Del., Republican National Convention, 1976 & 1984; Republican National Committeeman for S.C., 1980–88; S.C. Presidential Elector for Ronald W. Reagan, 1980 & 1984; State Chm., 1984 & 1990, Treas., 1990–96, Re-elect Strom Thurmond Com.; prev. serv. in Sen. 1985–13; elected Pres. *Pro Tempore* Mar. 13, 2012, serving continuously since.

### Clerk of the Senate

**GOSSETT, Jeffrey S.**—(Richland Co.)—residing in Columbia; s. Cherryl Ann Sanders and the late Harry Kenneth Gossett; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., Political Science, 1992, M.P.A., 1994; June 18, 1993 *m.* Susanah Paige Jones, 3 children; elected Clerk Jan. 9, 2001, serving continuously since.



### Assistant Clerk

**HITCHCOCK, Michael R.**—(Richland Co.)—residing in Columbia; s. Ernest and Glenna Hitchcock; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., 1993, J.D., 1996; Sept. 30, 2005 *m.* Regina West, 1 child; apptd. Asst. Clerk Oct. 29, 2002, serving continuously since.



### Reading Clerk



**WIENGES, John Othniel**—(Calhoun Co.)—residing at 102 Wienges Court, St. Matthews; *b.* Apr. 15, 1960; *s.* Othniel Henry and Carolyn (Phillips) Wienges; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., Political Science, 1983; 3 children, John Othniel, Jr., William Trezevant, and Frances Wren; former Mayor, Town of St. Matthews; mem., St. Paul United Methodist Church; former Pres., Calhoun Co. Farm Bureau; Kappa Alpha Order; apptd. Asst. Clerk Mar. 1, 1988; elected Reading Clerk Jan. 11, 1994, serving continuously since.

### Sergeant at Arms



**MELTON, James R.**—(Kershaw Co.)—residing at 1707 Broad St., Camden; *b.* Oct. 31, 1952 in Camden; *s.* the late William A. Melton and Phyllis Glover (Melton) Kelly; Sept. 1, 1972 *m.* Brenda Baker, 2 children, James Robert, Jr. and Julie Anne; First Baptist Church, Camden; apptd. Asst. Sgt. at Arms Oct. 1, 1986 and elected Jan. 13, 1987; apptd. Sgt. at Arms Nov. 21, 1989 and elected Jan. 9, 1990, serving continuously since.

### Chaplain



**ST. JOHN, James I.**—(Richland Co.)—Retired Pastor; residing at 2136 Bee Ridge Rd., Columbia; *b.* Mar. 19, 1939; *s.* the late Ivan S. and Kathryn (McCreary) St. John; *g.* Wofford Coll., B.A., 1961; Univ. of S.C., M.A., 1969; Columbia Theological Seminary, D.Min., 1978; July 20, 1963 *m.* Ann Beatrice Hendrix, 1 child, Melissa St. John Raith; Ordained, Presbyterian Church, USA, 1978; named Pastor *Emeritus*, Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, Columbia, 2005; elected Chaplain Jan. 9, 2007, serving continuously since.